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IN HONOR OF CLARE FLANNERY,
IRISH WOMAN OF THE YEAR, 1995

HON. ROBERT MENENDEZ

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. MENENDEZ. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to pay tribute to Clare Flannery, Irish Woman of the Year, 1995, who will be honored at this year's St. Patrick's Day parade in Jersey City. Ms. Flannery is among the many Irish-American men and women who have helped make this country great.

The Irish have been immigrating to the United States since the early part of the 19th century. In that time, they have made many contributions to this country. They have distinguished themselves at every level of American society. As Irish-Americans have built their businesses, so have they contributed to the economic prosperity of this Nation. As they have grown politically, they have contributed to government on the local, State and national levels. Their devotion to family and friends demonstrates that much can be accomplished when people work together in harmony.

At home, Irish-Americans have worked hard to protect all of us from crime and fire. They have put their lives on the line to help ensure the safety of their fellow citizens. The long, proud tradition of Irish police officers and firemen scarcely needs to be mentioned. However, the Irish have not only been good neighbors at home, they have also put their lives on the line when they have fought to defend this Nation against our foes in every major conflict over the last 200 years.

Clare Flannery is part of this great Irish-American tradition. She is an active member of Project Children, which is an Irish community-based organization that pays to fly almost 1,000 children from Northern Ireland to the United States each year. The goal of Project Children is to offer the youngsters a respite from the violence which has plagued their homeland for over 25 years. This organization would not run as successfully as it does, if it were not for the dedication of people like Clare Flannery.

Ms. Flannery has done this while raising a family of her own. She is the proud mother of four children and a grandmother of four. She has been successful in raising a family, while at the same time helping the community. In doing so, she has set a positive example for all of us.

As we celebrate St. Patrick's Day, let us remember all of those Irish-American men and women who have made a difference in the United States. This is a day for us to acknowledge their achievements and feel proud to have them in the United States. This holiday is an excellent opportunity to pay tribute to Irish-Americans; past and present.

SELMA

HON. CYNTHIA A. MCKINNEY

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Ms. MCKINNEY. Mr. Speaker, as bigots and supremacists across the Nation bask in their new Republican majorities, this weekend's re-enactment of the Selma to Montgomery march couldn't have come at a better time.

Thirty years ago, my friend and colleague JOHN LEWIS had his head bashed in on the Edmund Pettus Bridge because he dared to march for voting rights in the South. That historic march to Montgomery gave us the Voting Rights Act which is now under attack from every sector: Majority and minority districts are being challenged in the courts, Governors are trying to kill motor-voter, and now affirmative action has become the new Republican wedge issue to divide people.

Mr. Speaker, while the bigots and supremacists feel emboldened by a Republican Congress, I invite them to come to Selma this weekend and witness our resolve to fight.

DESIGNATE THE TRAIL FROM SELMA TO MONTGOMERY AS A NATIONAL HISTORIC TRAIL

HON. JOHN LEWIS

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. LEWIS of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, today I am introducing a bill to designate the road from Selma to Montgomery as a National Historic Trail. The road from Selma to Montgomery was the last symbolic leg in the journey to the Voting Rights Act of 1965.

Thirty years ago this month we tried to march from Selma to Montgomery to demonstrate for voting rights for all. As the non-violent marchers crossed the Edmund Pettus Bridge in Selma, we were attacked by State troopers. I myself was beaten bloody. The country was outraged. Two days later, the marchers made a second attempt and turned back to avoid more bloodshed.

One week later, President Lyndon Johnson addressed the Nation and called for passage of the Voting Rights Act. He said:

I speak tonight for the dignity of man and the destiny of democracy * * * at times, history and fate meet at a single time in a single place to shape a turning point in man's unending search for freedom. So it was at Lexington and Concord. So it was a century ago in Appomattox. And so it was last week in Selma, Alabama.

This weekend we go back to Selma for the 30th anniversary of the marches. We go back to remember what happened and to rededicate ourselves to the importance of voting rights.

We have come a long way. In 1965, there were 500 African-American elected officials in the country. There were fewer than 100 in the South. In 1995, more than 7,000 African-Americans hold elective office—nearly 5,000 of them in the South.

However, we still have a long way to travel on our journey. In the 1992 Presidential election, only 56 percent of the voting age popu-

lation voted. In the 1994 midterm elections only 38 percent voted. This is a tragedy.

The designation of the route from Selma to Montgomery will educate and remind us of the right and responsibility to vote. It will also give important recognition to the men and women who dedicated their lives for voting rights for all Americans.

In 1990, Congress enacted the Selma to Montgomery National Trail Study Act and directed the National Park Service to study the trail. Their report is complete. It is time to make this important part of American history a national historic trail.

I urge all my colleagues to join me as co-sponsors of this important bill. Thank you, Mr. Speaker.

NONPOINT SOURCE WATER POLLUTION PREVENTION ACT OF 1995

HON. JAMES L. OBERSTAR

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. OBERSTAR. Mr. Speaker, today I have introduced the Nonpoint Source Water Pollution Prevention Act of 1995, the sequel to what is now section 319 of the Clean Water Act, nonpoint source management programs.

The Federal Water Pollution Control Act Amendments of 1972 set the Nation on its current cleanup course. The first line of that landmark legislation, in section 101(a), declares it the objective of the act "to restore and maintain the chemical, physical, and biological integrity of the Nation's waters."

Until now, municipalities and industries have borne the brunt of this commitment. Since 1972 American citizens as Federal and State taxpayers have spent more than \$75 billion to clean up municipal point sources. Industry, and citizens as consumers, have spent over \$130 billion on cleaning up industrial point sources, including \$67 billion in capital expenditures and \$63 billion in operating costs.

Despite that costly sacrifice, fully one-third of the Nation's rivers, half of our estuaries, and more than half of our lakes are not meeting designated uses. Only about half of our river miles, two-thirds of lake acres, and three-quarters of our estuaries have even been assessed, meaning that a much more significant though unknown number of waterbodies are impaired, and more are threatened.

Dredging, to remove sediment from our harbors and navigation channels, costs American taxpayers hundreds of millions of dollars each year. Polluted water from upstream forces communities to add expensive treatment technologies to both their drinking water and wastewater facilities. The outbreak of cryptosporidium in Milwaukee, caused by animal pathogens washed into the drinking water from farms upriver, are an illustration of the costs of nonpoint sources in terms of human health.

The major cause of this failure to meet the standards is nonpoint sources of pollution [NPS]—or poison runoff—the unfinished agenda of the 1972 act.

The program in my bill builds on established Federal, State, and local programs: the Nonpoint Management Program in the Clean Water Act, the nonpoint source provisions of

the Coastal Zone Act Reauthorization Amendments of 1990 [CZARA], and USDA's conservation and water quality incentive programs.

It focuses on sensitive watersheds, and encourages land users to prevent runoff, such as sediment, pesticides, herbicides, fertilizers, and toxics from city streets, from polluting our lakes, rivers, and streams.

It uses watershed implementation plans, designed by the State with input from local landowners and other groups. Landowners would develop site-level plans using site-specific management measures that they themselves have chosen. Assistance would be available from a wide variety of sources, including USDA, the States, and EPA.

As CZARA already does for coastal areas, the bill requires States or local governments to be able to take enforcement action against so-called bad actors, those who refuse to comply while their neighbors are being good actors.

The bill sets timetables for achieving clean water: 8 years from the beginning of the watershed implementation plans. At that point, the watershed would be assessed and, if clean water had not been achieved, additional measures would be implemented in two 2-year phases. At the end of 12 years, the waters would have to meet water quality standards.

The bill also creates a nonpoint program for Federal lands directly under the President. It expands water quality criteria and standards to cover nonpoint pollutants, contains provisions for new sources of nonpoint pollution, and creates a Citizen Monitoring Program to assist States in their monitoring under this and other programs.

This bill is fair to those who have already spent hundreds of millions of dollars on Clean Water Act mandates; fair to municipalities and drinking water suppliers who are faced with added costs; fair to landowners in coastal areas who already are complying with CZARA; and fair to future generations of Americans who will also need clean water.

TRIBUTE TO NAN HAWKINS BOSTICK

HON. ANNA G. ESHOO

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Ms. ESHOO. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Nan Hawkins Bostick and her upcoming induction into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

Nan Hawkins Bostick is a leading advocate for women and children in our community, as well as a prominent member of California's pro-choice movement. She has chaired Children by Choice, the Bay Area Pro-Choice Coalition, and the San Mateo County National Women's Political Caucus. In addition, she has served as public affairs director for Planned Parenthood of San Mateo and State coordinator of California Republicans for Choice. During the 1970's, Ms. Bostick was a member of a rock-and-roll band which performed at feminist rallies and children's programs. Her interest in education has extended to her own business, NGB & Associates, through which she has created instructive materials in various media for special education and inner-city students.

Mr. Speaker, Nan Hawkins Bostick is an outstanding citizen, and I commend her for her remarkable commitment and contributions to our community. I ask my colleagues to join me in saluting her as she is being inducted into the San Mateo County Women's Hall of Fame.

HONORING OWEN KIRBY AND GARY DELA RABA

HON. GARY L. ACKERMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. ACKERMAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to join with my constituents in the Fifth Congressional District and the members of the police officers of Nassau County, NY, as they gather to observe Nassau Police Conference Appreciation Night, and to honor Owen Kirby and Gary Dela Raba.

Owen Kirby, past Nassau Police Conference president, has truly brought honor to the citizens of Nassau County through his unfailing support of effective police work. Growing up in East Meadow, Long Island, Owen completed his schooling and went on to serve in the U.S. Army. Several years after his discharge, Owen took the police examination and was soon assigned to the Sands Point Police Department. His awareness of police concerns and a desire to provide more effective service to the public soon led to his involvement in the Police Benevolent Association and the Nassau Police Conference. He held several positions which include coeditor of the Blotter, the organization's publication, delegate, corresponding secretary, and second vice president. In 1987, in recognition of his outstanding service and enormous potential, his colleagues elected him president of the Nassau Police Conference.

Gary Dela Raba, president of the Nassau County Police Benevolent Association, is yet another unique individual who has devoted himself to the betterment of his fellow police officers and the more effective delivery of police services to Nassau County. Beginning as a police cadet in 1971, Gary was first assigned to the eighth precinct. It was here that he began to familiarize himself with the Police Benevolent Association's [PBA] collective bargaining system. In 1975, Gary was elected as a PBA trustee and began a process that would enable him to use his human relations expertise to enhance the professional standing of Nassau County's police.

As a trustee, Gary served on many committees and was eventually appointed to the PBA board of governors. In 1981, he was elected second vice president of the Nassau PBA. By 1988, this thorough understanding of the multiplicity of issues impacting on police officers led to his election as PBA president. As president, he has continuously worked at making the Nassau Police Department recognized throughout the country as one of professionalism and effectiveness.

Mr. Speaker, as we search for modern day heroes to lead our society, we could find no better role models than Owen Kirby and Gary Dela Raba.

I ask all my colleagues in the House to join with me in paying tribute to these two outstanding police officers.

THE OSCE AND MACEDONIA

HON. CHRISTOPHER H. SMITH

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, March 3, 1995

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, last week the states belonging to the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe—the OSCE—adopted a statement in Vienna regarding the escalation of ethnic tensions in Macedonia and the events that are causing this escalation. Some members of the ethnic Albania community of that country have sought to open their own Albanian-language university, and the resulting confrontation with the authorities became violent on February 17, leading to the death of one Albanian and the injury of dozens of individuals, including several police officers. Of course, there are now mutual recriminations regarding how the violence started.

As Chairman of the Helsinki Commission, I want to note and lead my support to the path outlined in the OSCE statement, which calls on all parties to exercise restraint, to strengthen the dialogue and to maintain an open-minded attitude in order to overcome the problems between them. It also indicates the willingness of the OSCE High Commissioner for National Minorities and the OSCE Monitoring Mission in Macedonia to contribute as they can to the alleviation of tensions.

I support this, because the differences which exist in Macedonia today can, in fact, be worked out peacefully. To allow the tensions to worsen unnecessarily not only would be destabilizing to Macedonia, but potentially to an entire Balkan region where there is already too much tension and violence.

In regard to the effort to establish a university in the city of Tetovo, provisions of the OSCE—and specifically the Copenhagen document of 1990—state that national minorities do have the right to establish and maintain their own educational and cultural institutions, as well as unimpeded contacts among themselves and with citizens of other states with common ethnic origin. The Macedonian Government is not obliged to fund, accredit or even recognize this university, but to consider the institution illegal—and to physically destroy last December the building in which it was originally opened—violates the spirit, if not the letter, of these provisions.

Mr. Speaker, if some segments of the Albanian community in Macedonia genuinely have as their objective a solid educational institution for the benefit of the people of their community, they should make sure that education is not used instead to provoke tension or incite violence. While there are ample grounds for criticism of the Macedonian Government, as I have just expressed, there is also reason to believe that minority-related issues, including education, can be satisfactorily addressed in a far less confrontational manner.

I would urge all sides to address education and other minority-related questions through dialogue, and the authorities to move more quickly on needed educational reforms. In the meantime, those ethnic Albanian leaders arrested for incitement during the February 17th incident are entitled to the protection of their rights, and any judicial proceedings should ensure due process in their regard.